

# Grace Fellowship Baptist Church

The Church

With a Heart

Sunday, July 13, 2025

Devotional Thought From the Pastor...

## THIS WEEK AT GRACE

July 13—19, 2025

Sunday School	9:45 am
Worship Service	11:00 am
VBS Follow-up & Lunch	12:15 pm
Int. Harvest Church	1:30 pm
Evangelism	6:00 pm

### Mid-Week

FB/YouTube Bible Study

### Wednesday

Bible Study	6:00 pm
Praise Team	7:00 pm

### Saturday

Discipleship for New Christians	4:00 pm
A 4-week class	

## Worship Service

### TIME OF QUIET MEDITATION

### TIME TO GATHER

Opening Hymn 159

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hymn 531

**SCRIPTURE: 2 Timothy 2:15**

Hymn 446 A cappella

### TIME OF GIVING

Offering\*

How Great Is Our God

### TIME IN GOD'S WORD

**Message: Stay on Target**

2 Timothy 2:8-15 Bro. Oscar

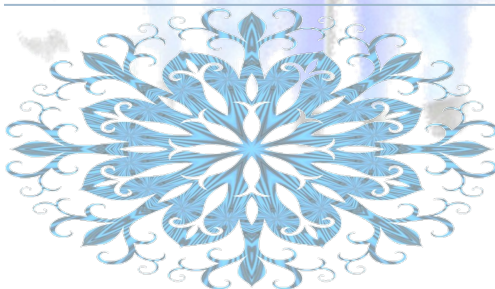
### CLOSING PRAYER

\*Please place offerings in the wooden box in back of the church.

## July Birthday

David White

7/12



## Ministry Gifts

Offerings for Budget	\$ 1,306.00
Designated Offerings	\$ 623.60
TOTAL OFFERINGS	\$ 1,929.60
10% Taken out for Missions	\$ 130.60

**Needed This Week for Budget \$ 1,701.92**

## Growing Up in God

2 Timothy 2:15, "Present yourself to God as one approved."

In her early years as a Christian author, Gayle often received winsome gifts from her publisher. Bouquets of flowers, chocolates, boxes of herbal teas. All lovely. But over time, her publisher began to send gifts with lasting value. A one-year Bible, devotionals, and prayer journals. As she used them, Gayle became a more mature believer—less distracted by frilly gifts and more committed to using her life to lead others to Christ.

This approach recalls Timothy's growth under the mentoring of the apostle Paul. Stressing spiritual maturity, Paul advised, "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15).

Then Paul added, "Avoid godless chatter, because those who indulge in it will become more and more ungodly" (v. 16). He added, "Flee the evil desires of youth . . . . Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments. . . . And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful" (vv. 22-24).

Paul's wise advice offers believers one other key benefit. Even opponents of Christ, when they see our mature choices in Him, may "come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil" (v. 26). So "growing up" in God has eternal outcomes beyond ourselves. Let's not wait, therefore, to grow up in our faith. Others will benefit as well.

## Stewardship Thought...

**Acts 20:35**—"In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

**One accomplishment that comes through using our money is in helping the helpless.**

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# Announcements...

## •Mid-Week Activities—Bible Study

—EVERYONE is invited to join us for mid-week Bible studies on YouTube prior to Wednesday and at church on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm. This week our study will begin in 2 Chronicles 3.

## •VBS Follow-up

—Attention VBS Leaders: We will drop off goody bags to each one of our VBS attendees on Sunday, July 13<sup>th</sup> right after the worship service. After that our volunteers will be treated to a delicious lunch to say “thank you” for all you did.

## •Discipleship Class

—for everyone who made a decision for Christ. This will be a 4-week class to learn what their decision means and what they need to do next. The class will begin on Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm.

## •Donations Toward Our Church and Various Ministries

—Please consider donating toward our CHURCH BUDGET, WHICH IS OUR MOST CRUCIAL NEED. Some of our ministry needs are Operation Christmas Child (OCC), Children/Preschool fund, Youth fund, Sharing the Load, our 2026 VBS, 2nd Floor A/C fund, Together We Build, Benevolent Ministries, Music Ministry, North American and IM-B/International missionaries, J & T, Texans on Mission, Samaritan's Purse, , etc. You may place your donations in an offering envelope and write the name of the ministry/organization on a “Special

Offering” line (the amount goes on the right). Remember to place your regular tithe on the short line after the words, “Budget Offering.” Then place all donations in the offering box in back of the church. Or—you may also send your donations through Zelle. The church's Zelle address is [gfbcfw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gfbcfw@sbcglobal.net). Please do not make donations through PayPal.

## •Church Website

—If you have internet you can go to our website—<https://www.gfbcfw.org>—to find lots of information such as sermon notes, pastor's weekly YouTube messages, Bro. Frank's YouTube Bible studies, giving opportunities, the ability to leave prayer requests and more.

## •Instagram

—Also, please remember to follow our church on Instagram at @gfbcfw where you can receive inspiration and information!

## •Toiletry Items for the Homeless

—Since the homeless are always in need, please continue to collect travel-size toiletry items, and bring them to the church.

## •Budget Needs

—Please, prayerfully consider your part in support of our church missions, ministries, utilities, and upkeep. This week we need to pay our water, pest control, and SBA loan bills. How can you help? Please pray, trust God and be faithful.

we live. In fact, last Sunday our Church Council voted to send \$500 to **Texans on Mission (TXM)** Disaster Relief, and the funds were sent that day.

On July 4<sup>th</sup>, areas in the Texas Hill Country received more than 12 inches of rain in a 12-hour period, causing the Guadalupe River to crest above the flood level. Record flooding has caused widespread devastation in Kerrville and the surrounding areas. Homes have been completely wiped off their foundations. The ones that haven't been swept away sustained significant damage. Trees pummeled to the ground as flash floods raged through the towns. More than 104 people have died across the region.

Within hours of the waters cresting, **TXM** Disaster Relief leaders were mobilizing through Hill Country churches to assess the damage. **Texans on Mission** trained chaplains were on site immediately to provide spiritual and emotional support that the community was/is facing. The emotional toll placed on the families affected by the floods is heavy. They are hurting and desperately searching for hope.

**TXM** has deployed additional disaster relief teams to help in the recovery process:

- ◇ Assessors
- ◇ Flood Recovery
- ◇ Shower/Laundry
- ◇ Volunteer Feeding
- ◇ Chaplains
- ◇ Electrical Support
- ◇ Electronic Support
- ◇ IMT/Command Center
- ◇ Box Ministry
- ◇ Asset Protection

These teams act as the hands and feet of Jesus, offering help, hope and healing to many people who are suffering. Will you pray for those impacted by the flooding?

We/you can also bring hope to survivors in the Texas Hill Country by making financial gifts to help the **TXM** volunteers to instantly meet the crucial needs of survivors following the flooding. When we/you donate to Texans on Mission Disaster Relief, 100% of our gifts support disaster relief ministries.

<https://www.texansonmission.org/hill-country>

## Today's Scripture

**2 Timothy 2:15**—“Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.”



My plan for today was to write about what our church has already purchased for Operation Christmas Child (OCC).

But the dire situation that has taken place in the Texas Hill Country necessitates that we focus on the tragedy that has taken place not far from where

**Stay on Target**

2 Timothy 2:8-15, 1 Timothy 1:5-7, 2 Timothy 2:19-26

**Descended From David**

- God said He was going to send a Savior, a descendent of King David, and He would be a Savior for all.
- The Gospel was the good news, the ultimate news, the kind of news that interrupts everything else because it stands above everything else.
- What matters most is not our circumstances, but where we stand in relationship to the purpose of God.

**Stay On Target**

- Liturgy is a fixed set of ceremonies, words, etc., that are used during public worship.
- Liturgical beliefs did not grow out of the early church, the early church grew out of these beliefs.
- Even if you are not valuable to anyone else, you are incredibly valuable to God.
- Other purposes are trying to take over our lives, and it is vital to stay on target.

**Remember What Matters**

- God is always here, but bringing God's presence into focus is what serves God's purpose.
- We must guard against wandering off into vain ideas.
- Do not focus on what might get people's at-

tention but by being approved by God.

- Avoid getting sidetracked on non-important matters.

**Guard Against What Seeks To Take Control Of You.**

- Paul warns us to guard against what seeks to take control of us.
- We have the propensity to sell ourselves out.
- Separated from God, human life seeks power and pleasure in the consumption of others.
- If you want to keep your life on target do not confuse pleasure for purpose.

**Conclusion**

- Guard yourself from harmful contempt towards those in whom you may contend.
- We are to become more constructive than contentious.
- Do not lose focus contending for secondary issues.
- We need to recenter ourselves to re-embrace God's unchanging purpose.





# Remember in Prayer . . .



†Each week, please read through and update our prayer requests. Let us know if we need to keep praying for something or if the prayer has been answered.

†Please pray for strength and healing for Carmon from her fall & hip surgery; for Alice to heal completely from hip surgery; for health issues for Bill and for his concern for Alice; for continued healing for Frankie; for continued healing for Tony from cancer; for Mark H. from cancer; healing for Amy from breast cancer surgery; for healing for Tonya from neurological issues and loss of mobility; for Frank's hip to heal; for Cliff Denney's health, for Stacey's poor health, and for Sharon as she cares for Cliff and Stacey; for Kevin to heal from pancreatitis; for healing for Herbert, Barbara and Kitty; for healing for a growth on Ashlyn's brain; for Paige and Kristie's health issues; for healing for Virgie as well as Rose E; healing for Carmon; for Oscar A; for Robert and Annie, Nora and Doyle; for John's head and memory; for Donna's vein procedures to heal quickly; for Laura's vision and memory issues; and for Susen's eyes and feet.



†Miscellaneous praises and prayer needs—Please pray for Texans on Mission who have been dispatched to the Texas Hill Country; for an unspoken request for

Becky; for David's unspoken requests; praises and prayers for Paige, Jacob and Stetson; for an unspoken need for Nick; for an unspoken prayer for Donna; for an unspoken need for Tiffany; for an unspoken need for Richard; for Jim and his need; for family challenges for Daisy; for needs of the Polk/Flores family, their needs for God's guidance, and for Andrew's daughter; for Paige and Brian, Carla and Tony as they continue to learn how to care for Dakota's type 1 diabetes; for Jourdeah's best interest in her family and for unity in the Maroney family; for Chris and his little girl—Amiyah, and for their unspoken needs; for Ryan and his unspoken needs; for Genna, Nick and RJ's family needs; and for Shannon and Allison's relationship.

†Pray for the Children— Please pray for the children and youth who came to our VBS; for our upcoming discipleship class; and for teachers and staff who are preparing for the 2025/26 school year.

†Pray for our church—for our pastors and their families; for REVIVAL among our members; for our ministries, financial needs, and for a miracle involving the demolition of the south building.

†International Harvest Church and Ministries—Please continue to pray for the International Harvest Church and Ministries as they worship and praise God in the GFBC facilities. Pray for the missionaries they are supporting.

†Pray for wisdom, peace and protection in our nation—for North American missionaries; for Texans on Mission and their ministries, especially in Texas, Oklahoma, Missouri and Pittsburgh;



for first responders and those who have suffered loss from various disasters; for thousands who have lost homes; for the homeless, refugees and those suffering from hunger in our nation; for churches that are struggling; for wisdom for our political leaders, including our president, VP, governors, senators and congressmen; for our government officials to pass wise laws.

†Pray for the nations—for Samaritan's Purse as they minister to hurting people around the world; for our International missionaries; for J and T as they minister to Afghan refugees; for the peace agreement in Israel; for the situation in Ukraine to be resolved; for Burmese Christians in Myanmar; and for other Christians, missionaries and refugees who are suffering from persecution in Taiwan, N. Korea, India, Africa, Viet Nam, China, Russia, Turkey and others.



## Prayer Works!

### Prayer Requests & Announcements

You may email new prayer needs, announcements, edits and deletions to [gfbf-fw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gfbf-fw@sbcglobal.net) or enter them on the website by Tuesday at noon, 12:00 pm. You may also text your prayer requests to 817-937-5974.